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Centre d'étude des niveaux de vie*

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Trends in Family Formation in Canada

The Centre for the Study of Living Standards is working with the MacDonald-Laurier Institute to better understand family formation in Canada. This research program seeks to understand how family formation has changed over time, what the economic and social implications might be, as well as some of the factors that might be responsible.

The student who participated in this Directed Research project would contribute to this research program by providing an assessment and initial analysis of the available data on Canadian families.

The first part of the Directed Research project would be an examination of the different sources of data available in Canada on families, such as Census, the General Social Survey, and the Labour Force Survey, along with an analysis of their strengths and weaknesses for the analysis of family formation.

The second part of the project would be an initial analysis of those data sets that seem promising. The analysis would establish the stylized facts about family formation, focusing particularly on the relative experiences of different age cohorts. The analysis would look for differences across a variety of characteristics, including province/territory, rural/urban, immigrant/non-immigrant, and Indigenous/non-Indigenous.

The Directed Research project will provide the student an opportunity to acquire detailed knowledge of indicators and data sources related to families in Canada and understand and analyze the underlying trends in these data.

Dr Timothy Sargent

Deputy Executive Director

Centre for the Study of Living Standards

August 23, 2023

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